




## State of North Carolina Office of Information Technology Services

Michael F. Easley, Governor

George Bakolia, State Chief Information Officer

### Memorandum

**To:** CIOs, Security Liaisons

**From:** Ann Garrett, State Chief Information Security Officer 

**Subject:** Revised - Statewide Security Standards Deviation Reporting Process and Form

**Date:** Updated – August 15, 2008

As you know, state law requires agencies to comply with the statewide information technology security standards established by the State Chief Information Officer (State CIO). There are times, however, where compliance is not possible. To address those situations the Enterprise Security and Risk Management Office (ESRMO) has established a review process that is outlined below.

A deviation from a statewide standard may put state information systems and/or data at risk of damage, loss or exposure. Agencies must be aware of their deviations from security standards and need to regularly assess the risks associated with the deviations. The ESRMO also needs to be aware of the deviations so that staff can help agencies develop risk mitigation measures.

There must be a compelling business need for an agency to allow a continuing security standard deviation.

Each agency is responsible for evaluating the risk, the justification for that risk, and any compensating measures taken to reduce the risk. Effective immediately, agencies should use the latest version of the Statewide Security Standards Deviation Report Form attached to this memo for reporting information security standards deviations. Deviation Reports are reviewed by the ESRMO and submitted to the State CIO. As part of the review process, the State CIO may request the agency institute specific risk mitigation measures. The ESRMO monitors agency Statewide Security Standards Deviation Reports as part of the state's information security operational risk mitigation effort.

Michael McCray of the ESRMO staff is the coordinator for security standards deviation reporting and can address any questions regarding this matter. He can be reached at [Michael.McCray@its.nc.gov](mailto:Michael.McCray@its.nc.gov) or 919-754-6295.

Please contact me directly at [Ann.Garrett@its.nc.gov](mailto:Ann.Garrett@its.nc.gov) or 919-754-6300 if you would like to discuss any questions or concerns about statewide security standards and risk management.

cc: George Bakolia, State Chief Information Officer  
Sharon Hayes, Deputy State Chief Information Officer (ITS)  
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Attachment: Statewide Security Standards Deviation Report Form